This includes lands that contain: major wetlands; essentially undeveloped shorelands that are unique, fragile, or hazardous for development; necessary wildlife habitat or areas that have a high probability for providing necessary habitat conditions; publicly owned water-supply watersheds and aquifers; and forest lands of several hundred to several thousand acres that are undeveloped for commercial purposes. This class generally lacks improved public road access and has one or more physical limitation that would make development unnecessarily costly or lead to undesirable consequences during or following development. It can contain a public water-supply watershed or have a high probability of providing significant recharge to groundwater or can contain irreplaceable, limited, or significant natural, scenic, productive or recreational resources.

Vance County's conservation areas are for the most part located in conjunction with major water supply areas or major streams. The areas which have been designated as conservation areas are shown on Map 7 and are described as follows:

(1) John H. Kerr Reservoir

This reservoir is located in northern Vance County and also extends into northeastern Granville County and northwestern Warren County. Also included is the Island Creek Reservoir which joins Kerr Reservoir. Kerr Reservoir accounts for more than 12,000 acres in Vance County with an additional 8,000 acres of protective shoreline. Both the lake and its shores up to the 320-foot contour line are controlled by the U. S. Army Corps